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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF
OUTER SPACE
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Thirtieth session

PROVISIONAL AGENDA WITH ANNOTATIONS*

Thirtieth session, to be convened at United Nations Headquarters, on Tuesday, 16 February 1993, at 10.30 a.m.

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Statement by the Chairman.

3. General exchange of views.

4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications and the coordination of space activities within the United Nations system.

5. Implementation of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

6. Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellites including, inter alia, applications for developing countries.

7. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space.

8. Questions relating to space transportation systems and their implications for future activities in space.

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* Items 4 to 7 should be given priority in accordance with paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 47/67 of 14 December 1992.

9. Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit; examination of its utilization and applications, including, inter alia, in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to space communications developments, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries.

10. Matters relating to life sciences, including space medicine.

11. Progress in national and international space activities related to the Earth environment, in particular progress in the geosphere-biosphere (global change) programme.

12. Matters relating to planetary exploration.

13. Matters relating to astronomy.

14. The theme fixed for special attention at the 1993 session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee: "Space-based communication: the expansion of current services and increased understanding of new systems and the services they will make possible".

15. Other matters.

16. Report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

ANNOTATIONS

Items 1, 2 and 3. Adoption of the agenda

Statement by the Chairman

General exchange of views

1. Following the adoption of the agenda by the Subcommittee, the Chairman will make a statement reviewing developments of relevance to the work of the Subcommittee which have taken place since its twenty-ninth session. After the Chairman's statement, the Subcommittee will organize a schedule of work (the provisional schedule of work is contained in the annex to the present provisional agenda).

2. The general exchange of views will start at the morning meeting.

Item 4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications and the coordination of space activities within the United Nations system

3. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of resolution 47/67, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Subcommittee should continue the consideration of this item on a priority basis.

(a) Report of the Expert on Space Applications

4. The views of the Subcommittee regarding the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 1991-1993 are set out in paragraphs 23 to 36 of its report (A/AC.105/513). The views of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the report of the Subcommittee on this item are reflected in paragraphs 32 to 45 of the report of the Committee. 1/ The General Assembly, in paragraph 13 of resolution 47/67, endorsed the Programme for 1993, as proposed to the Committee by the Expert (see A/AC.105/497, sects. I and III), and urged all States to make voluntary contributions to the Programme in order to enhance its effectiveness.

5. The Subcommittee will have before it the report of the Expert covering the implementation of the Programme on Space Applications during 1992 and 1993, as well as the activities proposed for 1994 (A/AC.105/533). The Expert will also report on arrangements made by the Secretariat with other organs, bodies and organizations of the United Nations system to use available resources and secure additional financial support for the Programme, as requested in paragraph 19 (c) of the report of the Working Group of the Whole to Evaluate the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its sixth session (A/AC.105/513, annex II).

6. In addition, the Subcommittee will have before it an update on the Centres for Space Science and Technology Education (A/AC.105/534) as well as reports on the following training courses, seminars and workshops: the United Nations Workshop on Space Technology for Resource Development and Environment Management, organized in cooperation with the Governments of Ecuador and Japan and hosted by the Government of Ecuador, from 9 to 13 March (A/AC.105/525); the Second United Nations/Sweden Training Course on Remote Sensing Education for Educators, held at Stockholm and Kiruna, and hosted by the Government of Sweden, from 11 May to 12 June (A/AC.105/526); the International Conference on Satellite Remote Sensing for Resource Management, Environmental Assessment and Global Change Studies, organized in cooperation with the Government of the United States of America, at Boulder, Colorado, United States, from 17 to 20 August (A/AC.105/527); the Fourth United Nations Training Course on Remote Sensing Applications to Geological Sciences, organized in cooperation with the Government of Germany and hosted by the Geo Research Centre, Potsdam, and the Free University of Berlin, Potsdam and Berlin, from 28 September to 16 October (A/AC.105/528); the United Nations/European Space Agency (ESA) Course on the Use of Remote Sensing Systems in Hydrological and Agrometeorological Applications, held at Nairobi, Kenya, from 12 to 30 October (A/AC.105/529); the United Nations/ESA/Planetary Society Workshop on Basic Space Science, co-sponsored by the Governments of Costa Rica and Colombia, and held at San José and Santa Fe de Bogota from 2 to 13 November (A/AC.105/530); and the United Nations Workshop on Space Communications for Development, co-sponsored by the Government of the Republic of Korea and held at Seoul from 24 to 28 November (A/AC.105/531).

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on coordination of space activities within the United Nations system

7. The fourteenth Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities was held in Paris from 5 to 7 October 1992. The report of that meeting was issued in document ACC/1992/28. The report on coordination is contained in the document entitled "Coordination of outer space activities within the United Nations system: programmes of work for 1993 and 1994 and future years" (A/AC.105/524).

Item 5. Implementation of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

8. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of resolution 47/67, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Subcommittee should continue the consideration of this item on a priority basis.

9. The views of the Subcommittee regarding the item were provided in paragraphs 18 to 45 of its report (A/AC.105/513). The views of the Committee on the report of the Subcommittee on the item are contained in paragraphs 27 to 51 of the Committee's report. 1/

10. In connection with the item, attention is also drawn to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE 82) (A/47/383) and to the report of the Expert on Space Applications concerning the implementation of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications (A/AC.105/533).

11. The General Assembly, in paragraph 10 of resolution 47/67, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Working Group of the Whole to Evaluate the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space should be reconvened by the Subcommittee at its current session.

12. The General Assembly, in paragraph 11 of resolution 47/67, also endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group of the Whole as endorsed by the Committee and as contained in paragraphs 5 to 20 of the report of the Working Group (A/AC.105/513, annex II). The Subcommittee will have before it a number of documents prepared in response to those recommendations. Document A/AC.105/523 will contain information on national and international space activities submitted by Member States, including information on space activities that were or could be the subject of greater international cooperation, information on the resources and technological capabilities of States for the promotion of cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space and information on the capabilities of States in the areas of education, training, research and fellowship opportunities, in response to the requests in paragraphs 10 and 15 of the Working Group's report. A number of reports from international organizations with space-related activities will be before the Subcommittee, including information concerning space activities that were

or could be the subject of greater international cooperation, in response to the request in paragraph 11. Information on the arrangements made with other bodies of the United Nations system and other organizations in order to fully utilize available resources and secure additional financial support for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, in response to the request in paragraph 19 (c) (ii), is included in the report of the Expert on Space Applications (A/AC.105/533). A number of technical studies of the potentials of space technology for various applications, as requested in paragraph 17, will also be before the Subcommittee.

13. In considering agenda item 5, the Subcommittee should note that, in paragraph 9 of resolution 47/67, the General Assembly stated that:

> "[I]t is particularly urgent to implement the following recommendations:
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> "(a) All countries should have the opportunity to use the techniques resulting from medical studies in space;
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> "(b) Data banks at the national and regional levels should be strengthened and expanded and an international space information service should be established to function as a centre of coordination;
>
> "(c) The United Nations should support the creation of adequate training centres at the regional level, linked, whenever possible, to institutions implementing space programmes; necessary funding for the development of such centres should be made available through financial institutions;
>
> "(d) The United Nations should organize a fellowship programme through which selected graduates or postgraduates from developing countries should get in-depth, long-term exposure to space technology or applications; it is also desirable to encourage the availability of opportunities for such exposure on other bilateral and multilateral bases outside the United Nations system".

Item 6. Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellites including, inter alia, applications for developing countries

14. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of resolution 47/67 endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Subcommittee should continue the consideration of this item on a priority basis.

Item 7. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space

15. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of resolution 47/67, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Subcommittee should continue the consideration of this item on a priority basis.

16. The General Assembly, in resolution 47/68 of 14 December 1992, adopted the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space, as recommended by the Committee in its report. 1/

17. The General Assembly also decided, in paragraph 12 of resolution 47/67, and in accordance with principle 11 of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space, that the Subcommittee should reconvene its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space at its current session (see the annex to the present provisional agenda for the provisional schedule of work for the Working Group).

Item 8. Questions relating to space transportation systems and their implications for future activities in space

18. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of resolution 47/67, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Subcommittee should continue the consideration of this item at its current session.

Item 9. Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit; examination of its utilization and applications, including, inter alia, in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to space communications developments, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries

19. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of resolution 47/67, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Subcommittee should continue the consideration of this item at its current session.

Item 10. Matters relating to life sciences, including space medicine

20. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of resolution 47/67, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Subcommittee should continue the consideration of this item at its current session.

Item 11. Progress in national and international space activities related to the Earth environment, in particular progress in the geosphere-biosphere (global change) programme

21. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of resolution 47/67, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Subcommittee should continue, at its current session, consideration of this item.

Item 12. Matters relating to planetary exploration

22. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of resolution 47/67, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Subcommittee should continue the consideration of this item at its current session.

Item 13. Matters relating to astronomy

23. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of resolution 47/67, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Subcommittee should continue the consideration of this item at its current session.

Item 14. The theme fixed for special attention at the 1993 session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee: "Space-based communication: the expansion of current services and increased understanding of new systems and the services they will make possible"

24. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of resolution 47/67, endorsed the recommendation of the Subcommittee, which had been endorsed by the Committee, that the theme fixed for the special attention of the Subcommittee at its current session should be "Space-based communication: the expansion of current services and increased understanding of new systems and the services they will make possible".

25. In accordance with the same resolution, the Committee on Outer Space Research (COSPAR) and the International Astronautical Federation (IAF), in liaison with Member States, have been invited to arrange a symposium on this theme, with as wide a participation as possible, to be held during the first week of the session, at the end of the meeting of the Subcommittee, to complement its discussions (see note a of the annex to the present provisional agenda).

Item 15. Other matters

(a) International Space Year

26. The General Assembly, in paragraph 21 of resolution 47/67, recommended that the United Nations actively encourage the continuation of activities initiated for International Space Year (ISY), 1992 and promote broader involvement in those activities by more nations.

27. The Subcommittee will have before it an update on United Nations ISY activities (A/AC.105/445/Add.9).

(b) Space and Earth environment

28. The General Assembly, in paragraph 23 of resolution 47/67, recommended that more attention be paid to all aspects related to the protection and the preservation of the outer space environment, especially those potentially affecting the Earth's environment.

29. The General Assembly, in paragraph 27 of the same resolution, requested the Secretary-General to prepare, for the next session of the Committee, an analytical report on the role that the Committee could play in view of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and invited Member States to submit their views in time for inclusion in that report.

30. The General Assembly, in paragraph 24 of the same resolution, also considered that it was essential that Member States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, including nuclear power sources, with space debris and other aspects of space debris, and called for the

continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, and that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Subcommittee in order to allow it to follow this area more closely. The Subcommittee had agreed that this could be done through provision of working papers, interventions in the general debate and technical presentations by specialists from Member States and international organizations, in particular COSPAR and IAF (A/AC.105/513, para. 105).

31. The General Assembly, in paragraph 25 of the same resolution, requested the Secretary-General to invite Member States to provide information on their national research on space debris to the Subcommittee. Information submitted by Member States in response to the Secretary-General's invitation will be before the Subcommittee in document A/AC.105/523.

(c) Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

32. The General Assembly, in paragraph 20 of resolution 47/67, recommended that Member States might discuss, during the next sessions of the Committee under its agenda item "Other matters", the possibility of holding a third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in the future.

(d) Other reports

33. The Subcommittee will also have before it the document entitled "Highlights in Space: Progress in space science, technology and applications 1992" - reports submitted by COSPAR and IAF and published jointly (A/AC.105/522).

34. Additional reports may be submitted to the Subcommittee as available.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/47/20).

Annex

PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE OF WORK*

Date	Morning	Afternoon
Tuesday, 16 February	Item 1 - Adoption of the agenda	Item 3 - General exchange of views
	Item 2 - Statement by the Chairman	Item 14 - Space-based communication: the expansion of current services and increased understanding of new systems and the services they will make possible a/
	Item 3 - General exchange of views	
Wednesday, 17 February	Item 3 - General exchange of views	Item 5 - UNISPACE 82 b/
	Item 4 - United Nations Programme on Space Applications	Item 14 - Space-based communication
Thursday, 18 February	Item 4 - United Nations Programme on Space Applications	Item 4 - United Nations Programme on Space Applications
	Item 5 - UNISPACE 82 b/	Item 5 - UNISPACE 82 b/
Friday, 19 February	Item 4 - United Nations Programme on Space Applications	Item 8 - Space transportation systems
	Item 5 - UNISPACE 82 b/	Item 9 - Geostationary orbit
Monday, 22 February	Item 7 - Nuclear power sources c/	Item 7 - Nuclear power sources c/
Tuesday, 23 February	Item 7 - Nuclear power sources c/	Item 6 - Remote sensing
		Item 11 - Earth environment
Wednesday, 24 February	Item 5 - UNISPACE 82 b/	Item 7 - Nuclear power sources c/
	Item 6 - Remote sensing	Item 10 - Life sciences
	Item 11 - Earth environment	Item 12 - Planetary exploration
Thursday, 25 February	Item 10 - Life sciences	Item 13 - Astronomy
	Item 12 - Planetary exploration	Item 15 - Other matters
	Item 13 - Astronomy	
Friday, 28 February	Item 16 - Report to the Committee	Item 16 - Report to the Committee

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* The provisional schedule of work has been prepared in consultation with the Chairman of the Subcommittee.

(Footnotes on following page)

(Footnotes to annex)

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a/ In accordance with paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 47/67, a scientific symposium on the theme "Space-based communication: the expansion of current services and increased understanding of new systems and services they will make possible", organized by COSPAR and IAF, will be held on 16 and 17 February, during the afternoon meeting of the Subcommittee. (A detailed programme for the symposium will be issued in due course.)

b/ The Working Group of the Whole, to be re-established under General Assembly resolution 47/67, paragraph 10 (see para. 11 of the present provisional agenda), will meet during the period allocated for agenda items 4 and 5. Arrangements will be made for informal meetings of the Working Group as required. The Subcommittee will take up agenda item 5 again on Wednesday, 24 February, to adopt the report of the Working Group.

c/ The Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space (see para. 17 of the present provisional agenda) will meet during the period allocated for agenda item 7. Arrangements will be made for informal meetings of the Working Group as required. The Subcommittee will take up agenda item 7 again on Wednesday, 24 February, to adopt the report of the Working Group.